

RE: Reach out to US partners on tow trucks

From: "Brosseau, Kevin" <kevin.brosseau@tc.gc.ca>
To: "Vanstone, Melanie" <melanie.vanstone@tc.gc.ca>, "McCrorie, Aaron" <aaron.mccrorie@tc.gc.ca>
Cc: "Coburn, Stacey" <stacey.coburn@tc.gc.ca>
Date: Mon, 14 Feb 2022 14:23:58 +0000

UNCLASSIFIED / NON CLASSIFIÉ

Had not seen. thanks

From: Vanstone, Melanie <Melanie.Vanstone@tc.gc.ca>
Sent: Monday, February 14, 2022 9:01 AM
To: McCrorie, Aaron <aaron.mccrorie@tc.gc.ca>; Brosseau, Kevin <Kevin.Brosseau@tc.gc.ca>
Cc: Coburn, Stacey <Stacey.Coburn@tc.gc.ca>
Subject: FW: Reach out to US partners on tow trucks

UNCLASSIFIED / NON CLASSIFIÉ

In case this thread had not made its way to you.

From: Sully, Jennifer <jennifer.sully@tc.gc.ca>
Sent: Monday, February 14, 2022 8:49 AM
To: Vanstone, Melanie <Melanie.Vanstone@tc.gc.ca>
Cc: McQuarrie, Chris <chris.mcquarrie@tc.gc.ca>
Subject: FW: Reach out to US partners on tow trucks

UNCLASSIFIED / NON CLASSIFIÉ

Hi Melanie! Still trying to put together all the pieces, so we may have gotten some of the details wrong. Thanks for your quick feedback on the Cohen note. Here's some info below that Frank shared yesterday – not sure if you received it.

Jenn

Jennifer Sully

Director, International Relations
Transport Canada / Government of Canada
jennifer.sully@tc.gc.ca / Cell: 613-794-3528
Directrice des relations internationales
Transports Canada / Gouvernement du Canada
jennifer.sully@tc.gc.ca / Tél. cell. : 613-794-3528

From: Frank.Stendardo@international.gc.ca <Frank.Stendardo@international.gc.ca>
Sent: Sunday, February 13, 2022 5:13 PM
To: Sully, Jennifer <jennifer.sully@tc.gc.ca>; McGregor, Daniel <daniel.mcgregor@tc.gc.ca>; McQuarrie, Chris <chris.mcquarrie@tc.gc.ca>
Cc: Joly, Brigitte <brigitte.joly@tc.gc.ca>
Subject: FW: Reach out to US partners on tow trucks
From: Kazlauskas, Kirsten -WSHDC -WS <Kirsten.Kazlauskas@international.gc.ca>
Sent: February 13, 2022 5:10 PM
To: Stendardo, Frank -WSHDC -TD <Frank.Stendardo@international.gc.ca>; Baird, Katherine -WSHDC -DHOM/CDMA <Katherine.Baird@international.gc.ca>; Barratt, Adam -WSHDC -WS <Adam.Barratt@international.gc.ca>
Cc: Loken, Martin -WSHDC -GR <Martin.Loken@international.gc.ca>; Layton, John -WSHDC -TD

<John.Layton@international.gc.ca>; Bourély, Nadia -WSHDC -TD
<Nadia.Bourelly@international.gc.ca>; Grant, Heather -WSHDC -WS
<Heather.Grant@international.gc.ca>

Subject: RE: Reach out to US partners on tow trucks

Following Frank's update, I reconnected with AB, this time with the incoming Managing Director of their DC office, Julia Bareman.

Julia was unclear on the specifics of the AB request for federal assistance and said she would try to get more intel, but she understood someone in the GoA reached out s.38

s.38 She assumes this was also done via Ottawa channels. I mentioned we're hearing that Montana has been reluctant to provide assistance. Julia said she listened in on the call with Governor Gianforte on Friday. She says the governor's team has been "super responsive" with them but MT really hasn't been engaged on this issue because most of the action has been happening on the Canadian side of the border. A request for assistance didn't really come up. She noted that the MT side of the border is a very remote area with limited population. The governor's office committed to raising the border issue with the local sheriff in that area, but the plan was to let local law enforcement handle any issues.

I'm also still in touch with James Rajotte – he plans to be in the Embassy tomorrow and has requested to touch base with Frank and anyone else who makes sense on this. He is free from 10-11am, 12-1pm or 2-3:30pm. Happy to set something up as appropriate.

From: Stendardo, Frank -WSHDC -TD <Frank.Stendardo@international.gc.ca>

Sent: February 13, 2022 3:52 PM

To: Baird, Katherine -WSHDC -DHOM/CDMA <Katherine.Baird@international.gc.ca>; Barratt, Adam -WSHDC -WS <Adam.Barratt@international.gc.ca>

Cc: Kazlauskas, Kirsten -WSHDC -WS <Kirsten.Kazlauskas@international.gc.ca>; Loken, Martin -

WSHDC -GR <Martin.Loken@international.gc.ca>; Layton, John -WSHDC -TD

<John.Layton@international.gc.ca>; Bourély, Nadia -WSHDC -TD

<Nadia.Bourelly@international.gc.ca>; Grant, Heather -WSHDC -WS

<Heather.Grant@international.gc.ca>

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The Minister clarified that Alberta asked the GoC s.38 The GoC said we need to explore other options and that we would help by seeking the assistance of the Governor. Sounds like AB took this as a no while the GoC thought we were being helpful.

In their discussion this morning, Sec Buttigieg again offered help and the Minister indicated that we may need his help in getting towing equipment to Coutts. The Sec said he would see what he could do if he had more info on the ask and what the problem is. The Minister noted that he has heard that Montana may be reluctant but doesn't know at what level. (anything we can find out would be appreciated.)

Btw, TC and other depts. are scoping out what authorities they currently have that could help "dis-incentivize" further protesters, which ones could be implemented immediately and which ones would require legislation.

With respect to other approaches, the Amer Trucking Assn is willing to put me in direct contact with the head of the Montana Trucking Assn but I am not sure when to approach the private sector for help, especially someone I do not know, given the sensitivity of this request.

From: Stendardo, Frank -WSHDC -TD

Sent: February 13, 2022 3:28 PM

To: Baird, Katherine -WSHDC -DHOM/CDMA <Katherine.Baird@international.gc.ca>; Barratt, Adam -WSHDC -WS <Adam.Barratt@international.gc.ca>

Cc: Kazlauskas, Kirsten -WSHDC -WS <Kirsten.Kazlauskas@international.gc.ca>; Loken, Martin -

WSHDC -GR <Martin.Loken@international.gc.ca>; Layton, John -WSHDC -TD

<John.Layton@international.gc.ca>; Bourély, Nadia -WSHDC -TD

<Nadia.Bourelly@international.gc.ca>; Grant, Heather -WSHDC -WS

<Heather.Grant@international.gc.ca>

Subject: RE: Reach out to US partners on tow trucks

No.

On call with Min Alghabra and I may be able to provide additional clarity around seemingly inconsistent perspectives in a few minutes.

From: Baird, Katherine -WSHDC -DHOM/CDMA <Katherine.Baird@international.gc.ca>

Sent: February 13, 2022 3:26 PM

To: Barratt, Adam -WSHDC -WS <Adam.Barratt@international.gc.ca>

Cc: Kazlauskas, Kirsten -WSHDC -WS <Kirsten.Kazlauskas@international.gc.ca>; Loken, Martin -WSHDC -GR <Martin.Loken@international.gc.ca>; Stendardo, Frank -WSHDC -TD

<Frank.Stendardo@international.gc.ca>; Layton, John -WSHDC -TD

<John.Layton@international.gc.ca>; Bourély, Nadia -WSHDC -TD

<Nadia.Bourely@international.gc.ca>; Grant, Heather -WSHDC -WS

<Heather.Grant@international.gc.ca>

Subject: Re: Reach out to US partners on tow trucks

Not that i've seen. Please do.

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 13, 2022, at 3:20 PM, Barratt, Adam -WSHDC -WS <Adam.Barratt@international.gc.ca> wrote:

Has anyone on this chain shared Kirsten's AB update with HOM? Don't want to duplicate efforts.

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 13, 2022, at 3:02 PM, Kazlauskas, Kirsten -WSHDC -WS <Kirsten.Kazlauskas@international.gc.ca> wrote:

I spoke with James Rajotte who is boarding a flight so he'll be offline for at least an hour or so. In response to HOM's questions, James confirmed that Premier Kenney had a call with MT Governor Gianforte on Friday. The governor had heard that there had been some activity on the U.S. side of the AB/MT border and they agreed to keep in touch. Otherwise, he hasn't heard much of an update this weekend. James has personally had some back and forth with Governor Burgum's COS on other issues in the last week, but not specifically focused on this one.

James also relayed that he was aware of a request for vehicles/logistical support from AB denied by the Canadian federal government -- but the details of such a request are unclear. Information has been shared with Frank who is currently on a call with senior officials and promised to flag the issue. Frank noted that this feedback is inconsistent with what he is hearing, that the federal government is working with AB on a tow truck strategy working group to increase capacity.

Frank, grateful for your help in uncrossing these wires. James is holding off flagging anything to the premier's office for now. He would appreciate being kept in the loop, especially if we confirm meetings with governors (or if he is unavailable, his office's new Managing Director, Julia Bareman.)

From: Barratt, Adam -WSHDC -WS <Adam.Barratt@international.gc.ca>

Sent: February 13, 2022 11:39 AM

To: Loken, Martin -WSHDC -GR <Martin.Loken@international.gc.ca>; Stendardo, Frank -WSHDC -TD <Frank.Stendardo@international.gc.ca>; Layton, John -WSHDC -TD

<John.Layton@international.gc.ca>; Bourély, Nadia -WSHDC -TD
<Nadia.Bourelly@international.gc.ca>; Baird, Katherine -WSHDC -DHOM/CDMA
<Katherine.Baird@international.gc.ca>; Kazlauskas, Kirsten -WSHDC -WS
<Kirsten.Kazlauskas@international.gc.ca>

Cc: Grant, Heather -WSHDC -WS <Heather.Grant@international.gc.ca>

Subject: RE: Reach out to US partners on tow trucks

Kirsten K. has reached out to the Alberta office to answer HOM's questions below and will revert with whatever information we get.

Both Consulates are working on trying to set up these calls and will be in close contact with Frank to set up the details if they can get the calls today.

AB

From: Loken, Martin -WSHDC -GR <Martin.Loken@international.gc.ca>

Sent: February 13, 2022 10:55 AM

To: Stendardo, Frank -WSHDC -TD <Frank.Stendardo@international.gc.ca>; Barratt, Adam -WSHDC -WS <Adam.Barratt@international.gc.ca>; Layton, John -WSHDC -TD

<John.Layton@international.gc.ca>; Bourély, Nadia -WSHDC -TD

<Nadia.Bourelly@international.gc.ca>; Baird, Katherine -WSHDC -DHOM/CDMA

<Katherine.Baird@international.gc.ca>

Cc: Grant, Heather -WSHDC -WS <Heather.Grant@international.gc.ca>

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Taking HOM off just to check up on coordination. I saw from Frank that Kirsten K has contacted MNPLS and DENVR. Great. Thanks.

Is someone speaking to AB to try to answer HOM question re nature of AB engagement with MT to date?

My own view is that Canadian ministers calling these governors, unless they have prior relationships, is not likely to be as effective as premier to governor interactions or USG talking to these governors (at our request) to urge help.

(And why Canadian authorities at whatever level can't procure, or compel, greater co-operation from our own tow truck drivers is a sad mystery to me...)

Martin

From: Hillman, Kirsten -WSHDC -HOM/CDM <Kirsten.Hillman@international.gc.ca>

Sent: February 13, 2022 10:46 AM

To: Loken, Martin -WSHDC -GR <Martin.Loken@international.gc.ca>

Cc: Stendardo, Frank -WSHDC -TD <Frank.Stendardo@international.gc.ca>; Barratt, Adam -WSHDC -WS <Adam.Barratt@international.gc.ca>; Layton, John -WSHDC -TD

<John.Layton@international.gc.ca>; Bourély, Nadia -WSHDC -TD

<Nadia.Bourelly@international.gc.ca>; Baird, Katherine -WSHDC -DHOM/CDMA

<Katherine.Baird@international.gc.ca>

Subject: Re: Reach out to US partners on tow trucks

Also, did Alberta reach out at the political level? Did Kenny reach out to the Governor? Or was it at the officials level. Let's have a sense of the dynamics so we can properly prep the Minister.

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 13, 2022, at 11:41 AM, Loken, Martin -WSHDC -GR

<Martin.Loken@international.gc.ca> wrote:

Maybe goes without saying, but will be useful I think to bring Ariel and Sylvain into the discussion – if Adam hasn't already - as they'll not only know how to contact these governors but should have sense of practical scope for co-operation from them, e.g.,

whether they'd even be politically inclined to offer help that could visibly associate them with clearing of blockades...

Martin

From: Hillman, Kirsten -WSHDC -HOM/CDM <Kirsten.Hillman@international.gc.ca>

Sent: February 13, 2022 10:29 AM

To: Stendardo, Frank -WSHDC -TD <Frank.Stendardo@international.gc.ca>

Cc: Barratt, Adam -WSHDC -WS <Adam.Barratt@international.gc.ca>; Layton, John -WSHDC -TD <John.Layton@international.gc.ca>; Bourély, Nadia -WSHDC -TD <Nadia.Bourelly@international.gc.ca>; Loken, Martin -WSHDC -GR <Martin.Loken@international.gc.ca>; Baird, Katherine -WSHDC -DHOM/CDMA <Katherine.Baird@international.gc.ca>

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Ok, so the Minister wants to call the Governors of Montana and North Dakota? It wasn't clear from Michael's message if he wanted to do that, or they wanted us to do so.

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 13, 2022, at 10:56 AM, Stendardo, Frank -WSHDC -TD <Frank.Stendardo@international.gc.ca> wrote:

Ambassador

TC ADM Brosseau also reached out to me for help contacting Montana and n Dakota governors.

Adam offered to help and I've asked TC for the minister's availability.

Best

Frank

Sent from my Galaxy

----- Original message -----

From: "Keenan, Michael" <michael.keenan@tc.gc.ca>

Date: 2022-02-13 9:50 a.m. (GMT-05:00)

To: "Hillman, Kirsten -WSHDC -HOM/CDM"

<Kirsten.Hillman@international.gc.ca>

Cc: "Stendardo, Frank -WSHDC -TD"

<Frank.Stendardo@international.gc.ca>, "Thangaraj, Arun"

<Arun.Thangaraj@tc.gc.ca>, "Bijimine, Serge" <serge.bijimine@tc.gc.ca>,

"Joly, Brigitte" <brigitte.joly@tc.gc.ca>, "Brosseau, Kevin"

<Kevin.Brosseau@tc.gc.ca>, "McCrorie, Aaron" <aaron.mccrorie@tc.gc.ca>

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Kirsten,

I know you and your folks have done some great work on tow trucks, and helped secure some from Detroit for Ambassador Bridge. (BTW, it is not open yet, but very close).

We have a tow truck strategy group working with Alta government and local helping them secure enough capacity to move vehicles at Coutts once enforcement starts: combination of licensed drivers, heavy tow trucks, and other heavy equipment like bulldozers to push them into a ditch if needed. We have a similar porcess for Ottawa, although the dynamic is a bit different.

Alberta had reached out to Montana to seek help securing tow trucks or skilled tow truck operators but did not have any success.

We would like your view on another reach out to Montana or others in Western US for help. Secretary Buttigieg offered Minister Alhabra any assistance on anything related to opening the border crossing. The Minister is ready to reach back to the Secretary or call the Governor of Montana ASAP. (And I have offered to update US DOT colleagues today, and can make an ask when I do).

Would appreciate your advice and support on the best tactics to reach out to the US on this. (I have copied the team working on this here)

Michael Keenan

Deputy Minister - Sous-ministre

Transport Canada - Transports Canada

michael.keenan@tc.gc.ca

(pronoun: he/him - pronom d'usage : il)